

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of comparing voice signatures comprising:
2 recording a first voice signature from a first person;
3 comparing said first voice signature to a pre-recorded second
4 voice signature of another; and
5 generating a value representative of the similarities between said
6 first voice signature of said first person and said pre-recorded second voice
7 signature of another.
- 1 2. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 1, wherein said first voice signature comprises a spoken voice passage.
- 1 3. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 1, wherein said first voice signature comprises a song.
- 1 4. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 1, wherein said first voice signature comprises an instrumental voice.
- 1 5. A method of comparing voice signatures comprising:
2 selecting an original performance, said original performance
3 comprising an original performance voice signature;
4 recording a user impersonation of at least a portion of said
5 original performance;
6 establishing a user impersonation voice signature;
7 electronically comparing said user impersonation voice signature
8 to said original performance voice signature;
9 generating a graduated performance value representative of the
10 similarities between said original voice signature and said user impersonation
11 voice signature; and
12 basing an entertainment application upon use of said graduated
13 performance value.

1 6. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, wherein said original performance comprises a spoken voice passage.

1 7. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, wherein said original performance comprises a song.

1 8. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 7, further comprising:

3 electronically comparing a user impersonation pitch with a
4 original performance pitch to generate a pitch accuracy value;

5 generating said graduated performance value representative of
6 said pitch accuracy value.

1 9. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 7, further comprising:

3 electronically comparing a user impersonation rhythm with a
4 original performance rhythm to generate a rhythm accuracy value; and

5 generating said graduated performance value representative of
6 said rhythm accuracy value.

1 10. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, wherein said original performance comprises an instrumental
3 performance.

1 11. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 9, wherein said original performance voice signature includes
3 characteristics taken from the group of inflection, embouchure, intonation,
4 dynamics, accents, variations, technique and flourishes.

1 12. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, further comprising:

3 playing said original performance.

1 13. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, further comprising:

3 generating a display of judges, said display of judges
4 communicating said graduated performance value to said user.

1 14. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 13, further comprising:

3 providing a critique from at least one of said judges upon
4 selection by said user.

1 15. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, further comprising:

3 displaying a recording studio on a display while recording said
4 user impersonation voice signature.

1 16. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 15, further comprising:

3 providing an instantaneous feedback while recording said user
4 impersonation voice signature.

1 17. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, further comprising:

3 displaying said original voice signature and said user
4 impersonation voice signature on a display in a waveform display.

1 18. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, further comprising:

3 communicating said user impersonation over a computer
4 network to a remote controller; and

5 utilizing a logic on said remote controller to electronically
6 compare said user impersonation voice signature to said original performance
7 voice signature.

1 19. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, further comprising:

3 communicating said user impersonation over through a phone
4 network to a remote controller; and

5 utilizing a logic on said remote controller to electronically
6 compare said user impersonation voice signature to said original performance
7 voice signature.

1 20. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, wherein said entertainment application comprises a contest between a
3 plurality of users.

1 21. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, wherein said entertainment application comprises a game between a
3 plurality of users.

1 22. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 5, further comprising:

3 storing a plurality of said original performances within a
4 database; and

5 allowing said user to select said original performance from said
6 database.

1 23. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 22, further comprising:

3 storing said database on a remote controller.

1 24. A method of comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 22, further comprising:

3 storing said database on a local system.

1 25. An apparatus for comparing voice signatures comprising:
2 a database comprising a plurality of original performances, each
3 of said original performances comprising an original performance voice
4 signature;
5 a microphone for recording a user impersonation of at least a
6 portion of one of said original performance; and
7 a controller comprising logic adapted to:
8 establish a user impersonation voice signature;
9 compare said user impersonation voice signature to said original
10 performance voice signature; and
11 generate a graduated performance value representative of the
12 similarities between said original voice signature and said user impersonation
13 voice signature.

1 26. An apparatus for comparing voice signatures as described
2 in claim 25, wherein said logic is further adapted to:
3 receive said user impersonation over phone lines.

1 27. An apparatus for comparing voice signatures as described
2 in claim 25, wherein said controller comprises an entertainment game device.

1 28, An apparatus for comparing voice signatures as described
2 in claim 27, wherein said database comprises a removable game element.

1 29. An apparatus for comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 25, wherein said original performance comprises an instrumental voice.

1 30. An apparatus for comparing voice signatures as described in
2 claim 29, wherein said logic is further adapted to:
3 generate music lessons, from a remote system, using said
4 comparison.